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TOKEN OF A NATION'S SORROW.

# ADDRESSES

IN THE

# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

AND

# FUNERAL SOLEMNITIES

ON THE

# DEATH OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

N. Dearborn Boston

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,

6TH PRESIDENT OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA

J. Q. Adams

BORN JULY 11TH 1767. DIED FEB 23D 1848

U S. 30th Cong., 1st sess., 1847-1848

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# DEATH OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,

WHO

DIED IN THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON,

ON

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 23, 1848.

SECOND EDITION.

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In the House of Representatives, United States,

*Monday, February* 28, 1848.

Mr. Ashmun moved the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Arrangements be directed to cause to be published, in pamphlet form, and in such manner as may seem to them appropriate, for the use of the House, twenty thousand copies of the Addresses made by the Speaker and the Members of this House, and of the Addresses made to the Senate, together with the discourse of the Rev. Mr. Gurley, upon the occasion of the death of the Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

# INTRODUCTION.

The circumstances connected with the death of the venerable Representative from Massachusetts were so peculiar, that we deem it proper to register them in this "Token of a nation's sorrow"—this frail tribute of respect to the memory of departed worth.

Though he had been quite feeble for the last year, Mr. Adams entered the Hall of the House of Representatives on Monday, the 21st of February, in his usual health and spirits. When the House had been in session about an hour, the yeas and nays being ordered on a question, he responded in a voice unusually clear, and with more than ordinary emphasis. The painful scene that followed is thus described with accuracy and feeling in the National Intelligencer of the next morning:

"Just after the yeas and nays were taken on a question, and the Speaker had risen to put another question to the House, a sudden cry was heard on the left of the chair, "Mr. Adams is dying!" Turning our eyes to the spot, we beheld the venerable man in the act of falling over the left arm of his chair, while his right arm was extended, grasping his desk for support. He would have dropped upon the floor had he not been caught in the arms of the member sitting next to him. A great sensation was created in the House; members from all quarters rushing from their seats and gathering round the fallen statesman, who was immediately lifted into the area in front of the Clerk's table. The Speaker instantly suggested that some gentleman move an adjournment, which being promptly done, the House adjourned. A sofa was brought, and Mr. Adams, in a state of perfect helplessness, though not of entire insensibility, was gently laid upon it. The sofa was then taken up and borne out of the Hall into the Rotundo, where it was set down, and the members of both Houses and strangers, who were fast crowding around, were with some difficulty repressed, and an open space cleared in its immediate vicinity; but a medical gentleman, a member of the House, (who was prompt, active, and self-possessed throughout the whole painful scene,) advised that he be removed to the door of the Rotundo opening on the east portico, where a fresh wind was blowing. This was done; but the air being chilly and loaded with vapor, the sofa was, at the suggestion of Mr. Winthrop, once more taken up and removed to the Speaker's apartment, the doors of which were forthwith closed to all but professional gentlemen and particular friends. While lying in this apartment, Mr. Adams partially recovered the use of his speech, and observed, in faltering accents, "This is the end of earth;" but quickly added, "I am composed." Members had by this time reached Mr. A.'s abode with the melancholy intelligence, and, soon after, Mrs. Adams and his nephew and niece arrived, and made their way to the appalling scene. Mrs. A. was deeply affected, and for some moments quite prostrated by the sight of her husband, now insensible, the pallor of death upon his countenance, and those sad premonitories

fast making their appearance which fall with such a chill upon the heart."

Soon after being taken to the Speaker's room, Mr. ADAMS sank into a state of apparent insensibility, gradually growing weaker and weaker, till on Wednesday evening, February 23d, at a quarter past 7 o'clock, he expired without a struggle.

While he was lying in the Speaker's room, all business was suspended in the Capitol. On Tuesday morning, the House came together at the usual hour. The Speaker on taking the chair announced, in a feeling manner, that his venerable colleague was still lingering in a state of insensibility in the adjoining apartment; whereupon, the House in solemn stillness immediately adjourned. The same thing occurred on the following morning. The Senate also, and the Supreme Court, testified their grief by suspending all business.

Though the health of Mrs. ADAMS did not allow her remaining constantly with her husband, she has the consolation of knowing that every attention was paid to him, and every service, professional and otherwise, was performed, which could avert the calamity, or render his last hours comfortable and happy.

It is but justice to say, that all the members of Congress seemed desirous of testifying their respect, and doing all in their power to relieve the distress of the venerable sufferer. Among the physicians of the House, Dr. FRIES, Dr. EDWARDS, Dr. NEWELL, Dr. NES, Dr. ECKERT and Dr. JONES deserve special notice. These gentlemen were among the first to rush to Mr. ADAMS' aid, and did all that professional skill could do to arrest the disease in its first stages. Dr. THOMAS, Dr. LINDSLY, and Dr. FRY of the city, were immediately sent for, and soon appearing in the room, were unremitting in their endeavors to afford relief to their distinguished patient. The Chaplains of Congress and Rev. Mr. PYNE of the city, were frequently in attendance, imparting the consolations of religion. The Speaker and other members of the Massachusetts delegation paid every attention to their venerable colleague, some of them being with him nearly every moment after the fatal attack, and most of them at the time of his death. The officers of the House, and even the little pages, seemed desirous of performing every act of kindness, in token of their regard for their afflicted friend. But neither the skill of his physicians, nor the kindness of his friends, nor the prayers and tears of his afflicted family, could avert the stroke of death. The decree had gone forth, and the spirit left its tenement of clay, to dwell, as we humbly trust, in that "house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

# ADDRESSES IN CONGRESS

ON THE

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEATH OF MR. ADAMS.

At the usual hour of meeting of the two Houses of Congress, on Thursday, Feb. 24, a full attendance of Members and crowded audiences attested the deep interest of the occasion which called the two Houses to offer public testimonials of their profound respect for the memory of the Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, who breathed his last on the preceding evening, and whose mortal remains yet lay within the walls of the Capitol.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, as soon as the House was called to order—

The SPEAKER (the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP) rose, and in a feeling and affecting manner addressed the House as follows:

*Gentlemen of the House of Representatives of the United States:*

It has been thought fit that the Chair should announce officially to the House, an event already known to the members individually, and which has filled all our hearts with sadness.

A seat on this floor has been vacated, towards which all eyes have been accustomed to turn with no common interest.

A voice has been hushed forever in this Hall, to which all ears have been wont to listen with profound reverence.

A venerable form has faded from our sight, around which we have daily clustered with an affectionate regard.

A name has been stricken from the roll of the living statesmen of our land, which has been associated, for more than half a century, with the highest civil service, and the loftiest civil renown.

On Monday, the 21st instant, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS sunk in his seat, in presence of us all, by a sudden illness, from which he never recovered; and he died, in the Speaker's room, at a quarter past seven o'clock last evening, with the officers of the House and the delegation of his own Massachusetts around him.

Whatever advanced age, long experience, great ability, vast learning, accumulated public honors, a spotless private character, and a firm religious faith, could do, to render any one an object of interest, respect, and admiration, they had done for this distinguished person;

and interest, respect, and admiration are but feeble terms to express the feelings, with which the members of this House and the people of the country have long regarded him.

After a life of eighty years, devoted from its earliest maturity to the public service, he has at length gone to his rest. He has been privileged to die at his post; to fall while in the discharge of his duties; to expire beneath the roof of the Capitol; and to have his last scene associated forever, in history, with the birthday of that illustrious Patriot, whose just discernment brought him first into the service of his country.

The close of such a life, under such circumstances, is not an event for unmingled emotions. We cannot find it in our hearts to regret, that he has died as he has died. He himself could have desired no other end. "This is the end of earth," were his last words, uttered on the day on which he fell. But we might almost hear him exclaiming, as he left us—in a language hardly less familiar to him than his native tongue—"*Hoc est, nimirum, magis feliciter de vitâ migrare, quam mori.*"

It is for others to suggest what honors shall be paid to his memory. No acts of ours are necessary to his fame. But it may be due to ourselves and to the country, that the national sense of his character and services should be fitly commemorated.

When the SPEAKER concluded—

Mr. HUDSON, of Massachusetts, rose and addressed the House as follows:

*Mr. Speaker:* I rise with no ordinary emotion to perform a painful duty, which has been assigned me by my colleagues, growing out of an event which has recently occurred in the midst of us—the announcement of which has just been made by the Chair. My late venerable colleague is no more! A great and good man has fallen! He has been stricken down in the midst of us, while in the discharge of his public duties. One whose public services are coeval with the establishment of our Government; one who has come down to us from past generations, and of whom it might almost be said that he was living in the midst of posterity, an example to us and to those who come after us, has ceased from his labors, and gone to his reward. The peculiar circumstances of his death are known to every member of this House, and are calculated to make a deep and lasting impression. They weigh so heavily upon my own mind and feelings, that I am almost inclined to believe that *silence* is the most appropriate token of our grief, and the most suitable tribute to his memory.

John Quincy Adams was born on the 11th day of July, 1767, in that part of Braintree, Massachusetts, which was subsequently incorporated into a town by the name of Quincy, and hence was in the eighty-first year of his age. In 1778, when he was but eleven years of age, he accompanied his father, John Adams, to France, who was sent with Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, as Commissioners to the Court of Versailles. After remaining in France about eighteen months, during which time he applied himself closely to the study of the French and Latin languages, he returned to his own country in August, 1779. In November of the same year his father was again despatched to Europe for the discharge of diplomatic services, and took his son John Quincy with him. At Paris he was put to school, and when in 1780 John Adams removed to Holland, his son enjoyed the advantages of the public school at Amsterdam, and afterwards of the University at Leyden. Francis Dana, who accompanied John Adams as Secretary to the Embassy, received in 1781 the appointment of minister plenipotentiary to Russia, and took John Quincy Adams, then fourteen years of age, with him as his private secretary. Here he remained till October, 1782, when he left Mr. Dana at St. Petersburg, and returned through Sweden, Denmark, Hamburg, and Bremen, to Holland, where he remained some months, till his father took him to Paris at the time of the signing of the treaty of peace in 1783. From that time till 1785 he was with his father in England, Holland, and France; during the whole of which period he was a close student.

At the age of eighteen, at his own request, made from a fear that by remaining longer in Europe he might imbibe monarchical sentiments, his father permitted him to return to Massachusetts, where he entered Harvard University, and was graduated in 1787 with distinguished honors. Soon after leaving college he entered the office of the celebrated Theophilus Parsons, afterwards Chief Justice of Massachusetts, where he remained the usual period of three years in the study of the law, when he entered the profession, and established himself at Boston.

In 1794 Gen. Washington appointed him resident minister to the United Netherlands. From that period till 1801 he was in Europe, employed in diplomatic business, and as a public minister in Holland, England, and Prussia. Just as Gen. Washington was retiring from office, he appointed Mr. Adams minister plenipotentiary to the Court of Portugal. While on his way to Lisbon he received a new com-

mission, changing his destination to Berlin. During his residence of about three years and a half at Berlin, he concluded an important commercial treaty with Prussia—thus accomplishing the object of his mission. He was recalled near the close of his father's administration, and arrived in his native country in September, 1801.

In 1802 he was chosen by the Boston district to the Senate of Massachusetts, and soon after was elected by the Legislature a Senator in Congress for six years from March 3, 1803. He remained in the Senate of the United States until 1808, when he resigned. While in the Senate he received the appointment of Professor of Rhetoric in Harvard University, an office which he filled with distinguished ability.

In 1809 he was appointed by President MADISON envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Court of Russia, where he rendered the most important services to his country. By his influence with that court, he induced Russia to offer her mediation between Great Britain and the United States in the war of 1812; and, when the proper time had arrived, he was placed by President MADISON at the head of five distinguished commissioners to negotiate a treaty of peace, which was concluded at Ghent in 1814. Mr. ADAMS was then associated with Mr. CLAY and Mr. GALLATIN to negotiate a commercial convention with great Britain, and was forthwith appointed minister plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James. While in Europe, in 1811, he received the appointment of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which he declined.

After remaining in England till the close of President MADISON's administration, he was called home, and placed by President MONROE at the head of the Department of State, where he remained eight years.

In 1825 he was chosen by the House of Representatives President of the United States for the term of four years. On leaving the Presidency, in 1829, he returned to his native place in Massachusetts, and in 1831 he was elected a member of this House, and by the free suffrages of the people has been continued in that office to the day of his death.

This is but a hasty and imperfect enumeration of the public stations which have been filled by my late lamented colleague. Of the manner in which he has discharged these public trusts it is not necessary for me to speak. Suffice it to say, that his long eventful life has been devoted to the public service, and the ability and fidelity with which he has discharged every duty are known and acknowledged throughout the nation. His fame is so blended with his country's history that it will live when all the frail monuments of art shall have crumbled into

dust. By his death the country has lost a pure patriot, science an ardent votary, and the cause of human freedom a devoted friend.

But it is not as a public man merely that we are to contemplate Mr. ADAMS. In the private walks of life, "where tired dissimulation drops the mask," and man appears as he really is, we find in him all those silent and social virtues which adorn the character. His ardent love of justice, his inflexible regard for truth, his stern devotion to the cause of civil and religious liberty, were blended with meekness, sobriety, and charity.

But the crowning glory of his character was his devotion to the cause of his Redeemer. To that cause he was publicly dedicated on the second day of his earthly existence, and throughout a long life he manifested a firm belief in Divine revelation, and a calm trust in that Being who rules among the nations, and spreads the mantle of his love over his dependent children. But he is gone. The places that have known him, will now know him no more forever. This instance of mortality, at once so peculiar and so painful, admonishes us of the uncertainty of life, and teaches us so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

We tender to his afflicted family our heartfelt sympathy, and assure them that a nation's tears will be mingled with theirs. And while we look for consolation to the wisdom and goodness of an overruling Providence, we would affectionately commend them to that gracious Being, who has revealed himself as the father of the fatherless and the widow's God and friend.

Mr. HUDSON concluded by offering the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That this House has heard with the deepest sensibility of the death in this Capitol of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, a member of the House from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved*, That, as a testimony of respect for the memory of this distinguished statesman, the officers and members of the House will wear the usual badge of mourning, and attend the funeral in this Hall on Saturday next, at 12 o'clock.

*Resolved*, That a committee of thirty be appointed to superintend the funeral solemnities.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this House in relation to the death of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS be communicated to the family of the deceased by the Clerk.

*Resolved*, That this House, as a further mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, do adjourn to Saturday next, the day appointed for the funeral.

Before the question was stated on these resolutions—

Mr. HOLMES, of South Carolina, rose and said: *Mr. Speaker:* The mingled tones of sorrow, like the voice of many waters, have come unto us from a sister State—Massachusetts weeping for her honored son. The State I have the honor in part to represent once endured, with yours, a common suffering, battled for a common cause, and rejoiced in

a common triumph. Surely, then, it is meet that in this, the day of your affliction, we should mingle our griefs.

When a great man falls, the nation mourns; when a patriarch is removed, the people weep. Ours, my associates, is no common bereavement. The chain which linked our hearts with the gifted spirits of former times has been rudely snapped. The lips from which flowed those living and glorious truths that our fathers uttered are closed in death! Yes, my friends, death has been among us! He has not entered the humble cottage of some unknown, ignoble peasant; he has knocked audibly at the palace of a nation! His footstep has been heard in the Hall of State! He has cloven down his victim in the midst of the councils of a people! He has borne in triumph from among you the gravest, wisest, most reverend head! Ah! he has taken him as a trophy who was once chief over many States, adorned with virtue, and learning, and truth; he has borne at his chariot-wheels a renowned one of the earth.

There was no incident in the birth, the life, the death of Mr. Adams, not intimately woven with the history of the land. Born in the night of his country's tribulation, he heard the first murmurs of discontent; he saw the first efforts for deliverance. Whilst yet a little child, he listened with eagerness to the whispers of freedom as they breathed from the lips of her almost inspired apostles: he caught the fire that was then kindled; his eye beamed with the first ray; he watched the day spring from on high, and long before he departed from earth, it was graciously vouchsafed unto him to behold the effulgence of her noontide glory.

His father saw the promise of the son, and early led him by the hand to drink of the very fountains of light and liberty itself. His youthful thoughts were kindled with the idealism of a republic, whose living form and features he was destined to behold visibly. Removed at an early age to a distant country, he there, under the eye of his father, was instructed in the rigid lore of a Franklin, as I have heard him say. His intellect was expanded by the conversations, and invigorated by the acute disquisitions of the Academicians, whose fiery zeal, even at that early period, was waking up the mind of France to deeper thoughts, bolder inquiries, and more matured reflection—to result ultimately, as we all know, in terrific action. Returning to this country, he entered into the cool cloisters of the college; passed through the various stages to acquire that discipline of mind which intense study can alone impart; and thence, as he was about to emerge, appeared those buds of promise which soon blossomed into those blushing honors he afterwards wore so

thick around him. His was not the dreamy life of the schools; but he leapt into the arena of activity, to run a career of glorious emulation with the gifted spirits of the earth. He saw the efforts to place his country on a deep and stable foundation, where it now rests. He had seen the colonies emerge into States, and the States cemented into Union, and realized, in the formation of this confederated Republic, all that his ardent hopes had pictured out in the recesses of schools. Young as he then was, he contributed, by the energy of his mind and the vigor of his pen, to support the administration of Washington, who, we have just been told, transferred him at an early age to a foreign court; scarcely initiated into its diplomacy before his services were required for another and a more extended sphere. Passing from that, he returned to his own country, and was placed by the suffrages of his State in the chamber of the other end of this Capitol; and there, the activity of his mind, the freedom of his thought, the independence of his action, rendered him to his constituents, for the time being, unacceptable, by uniting him to the policy of Mr. Jefferson. He retired from the halls of Congress; but he went to no ignoble ease. Wearied with the toils, heated with the contests, covered with the dust of politics, he withdrew to the classic groves of Cambridge, and there he bathed his weary mind in the pure stream of intellectual rest. Purified, refreshed, invigorated, he came forth, after severe study and devout prayer, to do his country service. He was sent immediately to Russia, as has been stated, not to repose amidst the luxuries of courts, or in rich saloons, amidst the glitter of lights and the swell of voluptuous music, but to watch the swell and play of those shadowy billows with which all Europe heaved beneath the throes of the great heart of France.

Mr. Adams saw and felt that the pulse of freedom day by day beat feebler and feebler throughout the continent. He counselled the ministers of Russia. He was one of those that stimulated them to wake from their torpor, and he had the satisfaction to behold, from the frozen regions of the north, those mighty hordes pour out upon the sunny nations of the south to give deliverance to People, States, and Powers. His own country demanded his services, and he became, with Gallatin and Clay, a mediator of that peace between two nations which we trust shall exist forever, while the only contests shall be those of good will on earth and mutual brotherhood.

He went—as his father had gone after the first war of the Revolution—upon the termination of the second war, to the Court of St. James. He remained not long before another sphere was opened to him. As Secretary of State for eight years he fulfilled the arduous duties incident

to that high post in a country just emerging from conflict. To the highest office of the people he was quickly raised; and how in that sphere he moved, with what ease, ability, and grace, we all know; and history will record—he crushed no heart beneath the rude grasp of proscription; he left no heritage of widows' cries or orphans' tears.

He disrobed himself with dignity of the vestures of office, not to retire to the shades of Quincy, but, in the maturity of his intellect, in the vigor of his thought, to leap into this arena, and to continue, as he had begun, a disciple, an ardent devotee at the temple of his country's freedom. How, in this department, he ministered to his country's wants, we all know, and have witnessed. How often we have crowded into that aisle, and clustered around that now vacant desk, to listen to the counsels of wisdom, as they fell from the lips of the venerable Sage, we can all remember, for it was but of yesterday. But what a change! How wondrous! how sudden! 'Tis like a vision of the night. That form which we beheld but a few days since, is now cold in death!

But the last Sabbath, and in this Hall, he worshipped with others. Now his spirit mingles with the noble army of martyrs and the just made perfect, in the eternal adoration of the living God. With him "this is the end of earth." He sleeps the sleep that knows no waking. He is gone—and forever! The sun that ushers in the morn of that next holy day, while it gilds the lofty dome of the Capitol, shall rest with soft and mellow light upon the consecrated spot beneath whose turf forever lies the PATRIOT FATHER and the PATRIOT SAGE!

MR. VINTON, of Ohio, then rose and addressed the House.

*Mr. Speaker:* When the messenger of death enters this Hall, and bids one of us "come away," it is our custom to commit exclusively to some colleague of the departed member, the solemn ceremony of its announcement. This is all that usage and a respectful tribute to the memory of the deceased require. But the venerable man, whom the destroying angel smote down in our very presence—the book of whose great life is now written and finished—stood out far beyond the rest of us, upon a broader and higher elevation. It is true he was the son of Massachusetts, and to her belongs the proud honor of having given him birth. But he was more than the son of Massachusetts; he did not belong to her alone; he offered himself to his country, and she made him her property. His fame, his wisdom, and his works, were all his country's. These are his rich and common legacy to us all. It is therefore that we of the great national brotherhood, claim the precious privilege to cluster close around the children of Massachusetts—to take part with them in this sad solemnity—to sympathize with them, and with them to give

utterance to our sorrow, to our reverence, to our veneration for the departed dead, and to our deep affliction in this great national bereavement. I did not rise—I dare not attempt one word of eulogy upon the illustrious dead—nor dare I venture to portray his exalted character as a statesman, or the bright virtues of his private life. I know how incompetent I am to the performance of such a task. I trust that in due time, and on some fitting occasion, this will be done by some one of the great and gifted intellects of Massachusetts. But still I hope I may venture to say, that no man has heretofore died, when a member of this body, who will fill so large a space in his country's history, or who has stamped so deeply his impress on her institutions. The solemnity of the occasion forbids, perhaps the period has not yet arrived for the expression of an unbiased opinion respecting the effect of his character and services on his country's welfare. But when time shall have numbered with the dead us who were actors with him upon this great drama of life; when the partialities of his friends and the prejudices of his enemies, if any he have left behind, shall have been buried in one common grave, he and the work of his great life may be safely trusted to the truthful historian, and to the judgment of an impartial posterity. To this great and just ordeal, he, with all the renowned and mighty of the earth who have gone before him, must come at last. And to its verdict those of us who knew him best, and were most devoted to him, are most willing to commit him, and all that he achieved. The time, the place, and the manner of his death, all conspire to excite the profoundest sensation every where, as they have done in this Hall; and especially to teach us "what shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue;" to teach us how vain and valueless are all our struggles and contests here for distinction or for power; and, above all, that no human greatness, no fame, no honor, no high attainment, no divine exaltation of intellect, can aught avail us to avert the dread sentence of God upon poor mortal man: "Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return."

Mr. McDowell, of Virginia, then rose and said: Such for a half a century, Mr. Speaker, has been the eminent position of Mr. Adams in the eyes of his countrymen; his participation in the highest honors which it was theirs to give; his intimate association with controlling events in their national annals and with the formation of that public opinion which brought them about; such the veneration and almost universal homage entertained for his intellect and virtues, and such in all respects his great relations to this entire Union, and to the daily thought of its growing millions, that on this sad occasion the language of all its parts will be the language of lamentation and of tribute. It is not for

Massachusetts to mourn alone over a solitary and exclusive bereavement. It is not for her to feel alone a solitary and exclusive sorrow. No, sir; no! Her sister Commonwealths gather to her side in this hour of her affliction, and, intertwining their arms with hers, they bend together over the bier of her illustrious son—feeling as she feels, and weeping as she weeps over a sage, a patriot, and a statesman gone! It was in these great characteristics of individual and of public man that his country reverenced that son when living; and such, with painful sense of her common loss, will she deplore him now that he is dead.

Born in our Revolutionary day, and brought up in early and cherished intimacy with the fathers and founders of the Republic, he was a living bond of connexion between the present and the past—the venerable representative of the memories of another age; and the zealous, watchful, and powerful one of the expectations, interests, and progressive knowledge of his own.

There he sat, with his intense eye upon every thing that passed, the picturesque and rare old man; unapproachable by all others in the unity of his character and in the thousand-fold anxieties which centred upon him. No human being ever entered this Hall without turning habitually and with heartfelt deference first to him, and few ever left it without pausing as they went to pour out their blessings upon that spirit of consecration to the country which brought and which kept him here.

Standing upon the extreme boundary of human life, and disclaiming all the relaxations and exemptions of age, his outer framework only was crumbling away. The glorious engine within still worked on unimpeded and unhurt, amid all the dilapidations around it, and worked on with its wonted and its iron power, until the blow was sent from above which crushed it into fragments before us. And however appalling that blow, and however profoundly it smote upon our own feelings as we beheld its extinguishing effect upon his, where else could it have fallen so fitly upon him? Where else could he have been relieved from the yoke of his labors, so well as in the field where he bore it? Where else would he himself have been so willing to have yielded up his life, as upon the post of duty and by the side of that very altar to which he had devoted it? Where, but in the Capitol of his country, to which all the throbbings and hopes of his heart had been given, would the dying patriot be so willing that those hopes and throbbings should cease? And where, but from this mansion-house of liberty on earth, could this dying Christian more fitly go to his mansion-house of eternal liberty on high?

But kindling to the imagination and soothing even to the feelings as

is the death of Mr. Adams, with all the accessories and associations of this spot around him, how infinitely deeper is the interest which is given to it by the conviction that he was willing and ready to meet it! He was happily spared by the preservation of his rich faculties to the last from becoming a melancholy spectacle of dotard and drivelling old age. He was still more happily spared, by the just and wise and truthful use of those faculties, from becoming the melancholy and revolting spectacle of irreverent and wicked old age. None knew better or felt more deeply than he, that

> "'Tis not the whole of life to live,
> "Nor all of death to die;"

and hence for long years, his life has been a continuous and beautiful illustration of the great truth that, whilst the fear of man is the consummation of all folly, the fear of God is the beginning of all wisdom. To such an one, "composure" amid the perils of death, and when "the last of earth has come," is a supporting power frequently and divinely given; and, if it has not been permitted to him, as to a prophet of old, to be spared the bitterness of death, and to go to the heaven that he looked for and that he loved in a chariot of fire, yet to the eye of human faith his access to the same abode has been as speedy and as safe. Instead of wearing away under the waste of disease, and passing through all the woes and weaknesses which dissolving nature generally undergoes, a blow of brief but mortal agony strikes him at once into the tomb, and thus his spirit, instantly freed, goes right up to the parent fountain from which it came. The messenger calls, the soul is in Heaven.

At this moment of fresh affliction, whilst standing in the very presence of death, it is not meet to go into any special review of the labors or opinions of the departed. Whatever may be thought of those politically, he will never be denied the possession of great talents, actuated by great virtues, and directed with boldness, honesty, and earnest purpose, for an unequalled length of time, to whatever, in his judgment, was best for the interests, honor, and perpetuity of his country. This is the lesson taught by his life. That which is taught by his death calls upon us all, with solemn and appealing cry, "Be ye, oh, be ready, for you know not the hour when the Son of man cometh!"

Mr. Newell, of New Jersey, rose and moved the following as an additional resolution:

*Resolved*, That the seat in this Hall just vacated by the death of the late John Quincy Adams be unoccupied for thirty days, and that it, together with the Hall, remain clothed with the symbol of mourning during that time.

Mr. TALLMADGE, of New York, rose and said:

*Mr. Speaker:* I do not rise to present an eulogium upon the character of the deceased, but I am confident that every manifestation of respect for the memory of the illustrious dead will meet with a cordial response from every member of this House. In compliance with the suggestions of several members, and in accordance with my own feelings, I ask leave to introduce the following additional resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Speaker appoint one member of this House from each State and Territory, as a committee to escort the remains of our venerable friend, the Honorable JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, to the place designated by his friends for his interment.

All the above resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

Mr. VINTON then moved that the Speaker's announcement of the death of the Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS be entered on the journal. This also was agreed to unanimously, and then the House adjourned to Saturday.

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In the SENATE, after the formal annunciation of the death of MR. ADAMS had been made—

Mr. DAVIS, of Massachusetts, rose and thus addressed that body:

*Mr. President:* By the recent affliction of my colleague, (Mr. WEBSTER,) a painful duty devolves upon me. The message just delivered from the House proves that the hand of God has been again among us. A great and good man has gone from our midst. If, in speaking of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, I can give utterance to the language of my own heart, I am confident I shall meet with a response from the Senate.

He was born in the then Province of Massachusetts, while she was girding herself for the great Revolutionary struggle which was then before her. His parentage is too well known to need even an allusion; yet I may be pardoned if I say, that his father seemed born to aid in the establishment of our free Government, and his mother was a suitable companion and co-laborer of such a patriot. The cradle hymns of the child were the songs of liberty. The power and competence of man for self-government were the topics which he most frequently heard discussed by the wise men of the day, and the inspiration thus caught, gave form and pressure to his after life. Thus early imbued with the love of free institutions, educated by his father for the service of his country, and early led by WASHINGTON to its altar, he has stood before the world as one of its eminent statesmen. He has occupied, in turn, almost every place of honor which the country could give him, and for more than half a century has been thus identified with its history. Under any circumstances, I should feel myself unequal to the task of rendering justice to his memory; but, with the debilitating effect of bad health still upon me,

I can only with extreme brevity touch upon some of the most prominent features of his life.

While yet a young man he was, in May, 1794, appointed Minister Resident to the States General of the United Netherlands. In May, 1796, two years after, he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at Lisbon, in Portugal. These honors were conferred on him by GEORGE WASHINGTON, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

In May, 1797, he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Prussia. In March, 1798, and probably while at Berlin, he was appointed a Commissioner, with full powers to negotiate a treaty of amity and commerce with Sweden.

After his return to the United States he was elected by the Legislature of Massachusetts a Senator, and discharged the duties of that station in this chamber from the 4th of March, 1803, until June, 1808, when, differing from his colleague and from the State upon a great political question, he resigned his seat. In June, 1809, he was nominated and appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Petersburgh.

While at that Court, in February, 1811, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Cushing, but never took his seat upon the Bench.

In May, 1813, he, with Messrs. Gallatin and Bayard, was nominated Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to negotiate a treaty of peace with Great Britain, under the mediation of Russia, and a treaty of commerce with Russia. From causes which it is unnecessary to notice, nothing was accomplished under this appointment. But afterwards, in January, 1814, he, with Messrs. Gallatin, Bayard, Clay, and Russell, were appointed Ministers Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary to negotiate a treaty of peace, and a treaty of commerce with Great Britain. This mission succeeded in effecting a pacification, and the name of Mr. ADAMS is subscribed to the treaty of Ghent.

After this eventful crisis in our public affairs, he was, in February, 1815, selected by Mr. Madison to represent the country, and protect its interests at the Court of St. James, and he remained there as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary until Mr. Monroe became President of the United States.

On the 5th of March, 1817, at the commencement of the new administration, he was appointed Secretary of State, and continued in the office while that gentleman was at the head of the administration.

In 1825, he was elected his successor, and discharged the duties of President for one term, ending on the third of March, 1829.

Here followed a brief period of repose from public service, and Mr.

Adams retired to the family mansion at Quincy; but was elected a member of the House of Representatives, from the district in which he lived, at the next election which occurred after his return to it, and took his seat in December, 1831; he retained it, by successive elections, to the day of his death.

I have not ventured, on this occasion, beyond a bare enumeration of the high places of trust and confidence which have been conferred upon the deceased. The service covers a period of more than half a century; and what language can I employ which will portray more forcibly the great merits of the deceased, the confidence reposed in him by the public, or the ability with which he discharged the duties devolved upon him, than by this simple narration of recorded facts? An ambitious man could not desire a more emphatic eulogy.

Mr. Adams, however, was not merely a statesman, but a ripe, accomplished scholar, who, during a life of remarkably well directed industry, made those great acquirements which adorned his character and gave to it the manly strength of wisdom and intelligence.

As a statesman and patriot, he will rank among the illustrious men of an age prolific in great names, and greatly distinguished for its progress in civilization. The productions of his pen are proofs of a vigorous mind, imbued with a profound knowledge of what it investigates, and of a memory which was singularly retentive and capacious.

But his character is not made up of those conspicuous qualities alone. He will be remembered for the virtues of private life, for his elevated moral example, for his integrity, for his devotion to his duties as a Christian, as a neighbor, and as the head of a family. In all these relations few persons have set a more steadfast or brighter example, and few have descended to the grave where the broken ties of social and domestic affection, have been more sincerely lamented. Great as may be the loss to the public of one so gifted and wise, it is by the family that his death will be most deeply felt. His aged and beloved partner, who has so long shared the honors of his career, and to whom all who know her are bound by the ties of friendship, will believe that we share her grief, mourn her bereavement, and sympathize with her in her affliction.

It is believed to have been the earnest wish of his heart to die, like Chatham, in the midst of his labors. It was a sublime thought, that where he had toiled in the house of the nation, in hours of the day devoted to its service, the stroke of death should reach him, and there sever the ties of love and patriotism which bound him to earth. He fell in his seat, attacked by paralysis, of which he had before been a subject. To describe the scene which ensued would be impossible. It was more than

the spontaneous gush of feeling which all such events call forth, so much to the honor of our nature. It was the expression of reverence for his moral worth, of admiration for his great intellectual endowments, and of veneration for his age and public services. All gathered round the sufferer, and the strong sympathy and deep feeling which were manifested, showed that the business of the House (which was instantly adjourned) was forgotten amid the distressing anxieties of the moment. He was soon removed to the apartment of the Speaker, where he remained surrounded by afflicted friends till the weary clay resigned its immortal spirit. "This is the end of earth!" Brief but emphatic words. They were among the last uttered by the dying Christian.

Thus has closed the life of one whose purity, patriotism, talents, and learning have seldom been seriously questioned. To say that he had faults, would only be declaring that he was human. Let him who is exempt from error venture to point them out. In this long career of public life it would be strange if the venerable man had not met with many who have differed from him in sentiment, or who have condemned his acts. If there be such, let the mantle of oblivion be thrown over each unkind thought. Let not the grave of the "old man eloquent" be desecrated by unfriendly remembrances, but let us yield our homage to his many virtues, and let it be our prayer that we may so perform our duties here that, if summoned in a like sudden and appalling manner, we may not be found unprepared or unable to utter his words, "I am composed."

Mr. President, with this imperfect sketch of the character and services of a great man, I leave the subject in the hands of the Senate by moving the resolutions which I send to the Chair:

*Resolved*, That the Senate has received with deep sensibility the message from the House of Representatives announcing the death of the Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, a Representative from the State of Massachusetts.

*Resolved*, That in token of respect for the memory of the deceased, the Senate will attend his funeral at the hour appointed by the House of Representatives, and will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

*Resolved*, That, as a further mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now adjourn until Saturday next, the time appointed for the funeral.

The resolutions having been read—

Mr. BENTON, of Missouri, addressed the Senate as follows:

*Mr. President:* The voice of his native State has been heard, through one of the Senators of Massachusetts, announcing the death of her aged and most distinguished son. The voice of the other Senator, (Mr. WEBSTER,) is not heard, nor is his presence seen. A domestic calamity, known to us all, and felt by us all, confines him to the chamber of private grief, while the Senate is occupied with the public manifestations of a respect and sorrow which a national loss inspires. In the absence of that Senator, and as the member of this body longest

here, it is not unfitting or unbecoming in me to second the motion which has been made for extending the last honors of the Senate to him who, forty-five years ago, was a member of this body, who, at the time of his death, was among the oldest members of the House of Representatives, and who, putting the years of his service together, was the oldest of all the members of the American Government.

The eulogium of Mr. ADAMS is made in the facts of his life, which the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. DAVIS) has so strikingly stated, that, from early manhood to octogenarian age, he has been constantly and most honorably employed in the public service. For a period of more than fifty years, from the time of his first appointment as minister abroad under Washington, to his last election to the House of Representatives by the people of his native district, he has been constantly retained in the public service, and that, not by the favor of a Sovereign, or by hereditary title, but by the elections and appointments of republican government. This fact makes the eulogy of the illustrious deceased. For what, except a union of all the qualities which command the esteem and confidence of man, could have ensured a public service so long, by appointments free and popular, and from sources so various and exalted? Minister many times abroad; member of this body; member of the House of Representatives; Cabinet minister; President of the United States; such has been the galaxy of his splendid appointments. And what but moral excellence the most perfect; intellectual ability the most eminent; fidelity the most unwavering; service the most useful, could have commanded such a succession of appointments so exalted, and from sources so various and so eminent? Nothing less could have commanded such a series of appointments; and accordingly we see the union of all these great qualities in him who has received them.

In this long career of public service Mr. ADAMS was distinguished not only by faithful attention to all the great duties of his stations, but to all their less and minor duties. He was not the Salaminian galley, to be launched only on extraordinary occasions, but he was the ready vessel, always launched when the duties of his station required it, be the occasion great or small. As President, as cabinet minister, as minister abroad, he examined all questions that came before him, and examined all, in all their parts, in all the minutiæ of their detail, as well as in all the vastness of their comprehension. As Senator, and as a Member of the House of Representatives, the obscure committee room was as much the witness of his laborious application to the drudgery of legislation, as the halls of the two Houses were to the ever ready speech, replete with knowledge, which instructed all hearers, enlightened all subjects, and gave dignity and ornament to debate.

In the observance of all the proprieties of life, Mr. ADAMS was a most noble and impressive example. He cultivated the minor as well as the greater virtues. Wherever his presence could give aid and countenance to what was useful and honorable to man, there he was. In the exercises of the school and of the college—in the meritorious meetings of the agricultural, mechanical, and commercial societies—in attendance upon Divine worship—he gave the punctual attendance rarely seen but in those who are free from the weight of public cares.

Punctual to every duty, death found him at the post of duty; and where else could it have found him, at any stage of his career, for the fifty years of his illustrious public life? From the time of his first appointment by Washington to his last election by the people of his native town, where could death have found him but at the post of duty? At that post, in the fulness of age, in the ripeness of renown, crowned with honors, surrounded by his family, his friends, and admirers, and in the very presence of the national representation, he has been gathered to his fathers, leaving behind him the memory of public services which are the history of his country for half a century, and the example of a life, public and private, which should be the study and the model of the generations of his countrymen.

When Mr. B. concluded, the resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the Senate adjourned to Saturday.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *March* 1, 1848.—The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication:

"WASHINGTON, *February* 29, 1848.

"SIR: The resolutions in honor of my dear deceased husband, passed by the illustrious assembly over which you preside, and of which he at the moment of his death was a member, have been duly communicated to me.

"Penetrated with grief at this distressing event of my life; mourning the loss of one who has been at once my example and my support through the trials of half a century, permit me nevertheless to express through you my deepest gratitude for the signal manner in which the public regard has been voluntarily manifested by your honorable body, and the consolation derived to me and mine from the reflection that the unwearied efforts of an old public servant have not even in this world proved without their reward in the generous appreciation of them by his country.

"With great respect, I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

"LOUISA CATHARINE ADAMS.

"To the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP,

"*Speaker of the House of Representatives of the U. S.*"

The following members compose the Committee of Arrangements, appointed in compliance with Mr. HUDSON's resolutions:

Mr. HUDSON, of Mass., Chairman,
Mr. WILLIAMS, of Maine,
Mr. WILSON, of New Hampshire,
Mr. MARSH, of Vermont,
Mr. THURSTON, of Rhode Island,
Mr. SMITH, of Connecticut,
Mr. WHITE, of New York,
Mr. EDSALL, of New Jersey,
Mr. DICKEY, of Pennsylvania,
Mr. HOUSTON, of Delaware,
Mr. ROMAN, of Maryland,
Mr. McDOWELL, of Virginia,
Mr. BARRINGER, of North Carolina,
Mr. HOLMES, of South Carolina,
Mr. COBB, of Georgia,
Mr. GAYLE, of Alabama,
Mr. BROWN, of Mississippi,
Mr. MORSE, of Louisiana,
Mr. VINTON, of Ohio,
Mr. DUNCAN, of Kentucky,
Mr. COCKE, of Tennessee,
Mr. WICK, of Indiana,
Mr. LINCOLN, of Illinois,
Mr. BOWLIN, of Missouri,
Mr. JOHNSON, of Arkansas,
Mr. McCLELLAND, of Michigan,
Mr. CABELL, of Florida,
Mr. KAUFMAN, of Texas,
Mr. LEFFLER, of Iowa,
Mr. TWEEDY, of Wisconsin Territory.

The following gentlemen compose the Committee of One from each State and Territory, under Mr. TALLMADGE's resolution, to escort the remains to the place designated by his friends for interment:

Mr. TALLMADGE, of New York,
Mr. WILSON, of New Hampshire,
Mr. ASHMUN, of Massachusetts,
Mr. J. A. ROCKWELL, of Connecticut,
Mr. McILVAINE, of Pennsylvania,
Mr. LIGON, of Maryland,
Mr. BARRINGER, of North Carolina,
Mr. LUMPKIN, of Georgia,
Mr. A. G. BROWN, of Mississippi,
Mr. EDWARDS, of Ohio,
Mr. GENTRY, of Tennessee,
Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois,
Mr. R. W. JOHNSON, of Arkansas,
Mr. CABELL, of Florida,
Mr. W. THOMPSON, of Iowa,
Mr. HAMMONS, of Maine,
Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont,
Mr. THURSTON, of Rhode Island,
Mr. NEWELL, of New Jersey,
Mr. J. W. HOUSTON, of Delaware,
Mr. MEADE, of Virginia,
Mr. HOLMES, of South Carolina,
Mr. HILLIARD, of Alabama,
Mr. MORSE, of Louisiana,
Mr. FRENCH, of Kentucky,
Mr. C. B. SMITH, of Indiana,
Mr. PHELPS, of Missouri,
Mr. BINGHAM, of Michigan,
Mr. KAUFMAN, of Texas,
Mr. TWEEDY, of Wisconsin Territory.

# DISCOURSE

OF

# REV. R. R. GURLEY,

Chaplain to the House of Representatives,

AT

# THE FUNERAL OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

JOB xi, 17, 18.

AND THINE AGE SHALL BE CLEARER THAN THE NOONDAY; THOU SHALT SHINE FORTH; THOU SHALT BE AS THE MORNING; AND THOU SHALT BE SECURE, BECAUSE THERE IS HOPE.

In some circumstances, on some occasions, we most naturally express our emotions in silence and in tears. What voice of man can add to the impressiveness and solemnity of this scene? The presence and aspect of this vast assembly, the Chief Magistrate, Counsellors, Judges, Senators, and Representatives of the nation, distinguished officers of the Army and the Navy, and the honored Ambassadors from foreign Powers—these symbols and badges of a universal mourning, darkening this Hall into sympathy with our sorrow, leave no place for the question, "Know ye not that a prince and a great man is fallen in Israel?" Near to us, indeed, has come the invisible hand of the Almighty—that hand in which is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind; in this very Hall, from yonder seat, which he so long occupied, in the midst of the Representatives of the people, has it taken one full of years and honors, eminent, for more than half a century, in various departments of the public service; who adorned every station, even the highest, by his abilities and virtues; and whose influence, powerful in its beneficence, is felt in many, if not in all, the States of the civilized world.

Yet, at the hazard of weakening, rather than strengthening, the impression which this scene must make upon every mind, I must not shrink from the duty to which I have been summoned; I dare not hesitate to enforce the great moral lesson which this scene should teach, lest the delinquency should be rebuked even by the spirit of the illustrious man around whose bier the Representatives of a whole nation gather; lest the very domes, and arches, and pillars, and walls, of this Capitol, from which his great soul has just ascended, and which seem still informed by his vital influence, should become vocal with remonstrance.

The words of the friend of Job, in the text, instruct us in regard to the effect of a practical sense of religious duty on character in old age.

Incomparably great and sublime are the revelations of Christianity, not only in that they assure us of a future and eternal state, of which nature speaks but problematically and conjecturally, but in that they disclose our relations to our Maker—the realities of His providence and grace—the laws which He has established for the renovation, progressive development, and final perfection of our rational and moral nature, and the consequences, infinitely momentous, of good or evil, respectively, which are to follow obedience or disobedience to these laws, in worlds beyond death, and inaccessible to essential change.

Even nature herself would condemn us, if here, in the shadow, and, as it were, in the presence, of death, we should cherish the vain imagination that we are merely creatures of sense and time—governed by no laws except those of our physical being—under no higher and more fearful responsibilities than to our fellow men—related to no greater and more precious interests than those of this world; and that the mighty intellect which holds such large discourse, in which the whole universe seems mirrored in all the variety of its objects, harmonies, relations, and proportions, perishes in the transition from life to death; for, in the language of the Apostle, "the invisible things of Him (God) are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead;" and thus nature herself, by a law written by her own hand upon the heart, binds us in responsibility to her great Author, whose glory these heavens declare, making their voice heard among all the nations and tribes of man, while of his universal and omnipotent Providence day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

But while nature instructs us in some great religious truths, she shadows forth, by fit and impressive emblems, the possibility, and more, the probability, of those high moral and Divine laws, for a clear knowledge of which we are indebted to Revelation; to the existence of which, emanating as they do from the spiritual world, we are so insensible, because, at present excluded from its mysteries, showing how, as by one universal and invisible law of attraction, the Heavens and the earth are held in communion, and all the systems of Astronomy, guided in their ever relatively varying, mighty, and harmonious revolutions, giving to man all the beneficence of the seasons, and supplying, by their constant and benignant influences, all the necessities of his physical nature and condition; so may it be, as Christianity declares that it is, a Divine law, that only by a knowledge of his Creator, reverence for his authority, submission to his will, obedience to his command-

ments, acquiescence in the methods of his grace, and a true dedication of himself to the high service of his kingdom, as founded by our Saviour, Christ, man can attain to the chief good of his nature, and be exalted to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, unfading, and eternal. Not unfamiliar were ideas, kindred to these, to the venerable statesman who has just fallen like a father in the midst of his children, and to render the tribute of our respect to whose character and memory we are all mourners here. "Man (allow me to borrow his own words) is a curious and inquisitive being, and the exercise of his reason, the immortal part of his nature, consists of inquiries into the relations between the effects which fall within the sphere of his observation, and their causes which are unseen. The earth beneath his feet, and the vault of Heaven over his head, are the first objects which force themselves upon his observation, and invite him to contemplation. The earth and the sky, elements so different in their nature, yet indissolubly united by the mysterious mandate of Almighty Power, indicate to his perception, and foreshow to his reason, the condition of his own existence, compounded of body and soul, of matter and of mind. The earth ministers to each and all of his senses the knowledge of its physical properties. He sees, hears, feels, inhales, and tastes of earth and its productions, adapted to his subsistence and to the necessities of his life on earth. The sky is accessible only to his sight; and, although peopled with splendors, dazzling in brightness, and infinite in numbers, still presents to his bewildered imagination only the lights of the firmament, like a halo of glory surrounding the universe, but glowing at distances too remote to come within the reach of any other of his senses. He soon discovers, that distant as the great Luminary may be from earth, yet the earth could not exist without his generative beams, and that the Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth forth his handy work."*

His conviction of the necessity for a Divine Revelation was as unequivocal as of the fact of its existence. "But (I adopt his words) the worship of idols is the first great error of man in the state of nature. His unassisted mind has not energy to conceive the foundation of all Truth that there is one, and only one God, the Creator and Governor of the Universe. Bereft of that Divine Instructor, man sees in every thing around him the necessity of a Creator, but sees not that there is and can be but one."

* In the truly learned and eloquent Discourse of Mr. Adams at the laying of the corner-stone of the Observatory in Cincinnati, from which we have borrowed this passage, is one in which, having alluded to the motives which stimulated different individuals to observe the stars, to the idea of Pythagoras in regard to the music of the spheres, and the sweet lines of the great Dramatist in which that idea is expressed, he adds:

"*Oh! who is the one with a heart but almost wishes to cast off this muddy vesture of decay, to be admitted to the joy of listening to the celestial harmony.*"

And can it be doubted, that a firm faith in the great truths to which nature in all her works testifies—of the eternal power and Godhead of our Creator—and in the truths still more impressive to us of the Christian Revelation—that a practical sense, not only of the doctrine of immortality, but of individual and constant responsibility to the infinite Father and Judge of the Universe—of his laws as extending over all the conditions and circumstances, and throughout the whole duration of our rational being—of our fallen condition, and the means of recovery through the mission and death of his Son and the grace of his Spirit, and of the certain connexion between our character and conduct in this life, and our character and condition in that life which is to come, can it be doubted, that a firm faith in these truths will so correct the disorders of the affections, so restrain and repress evil passions, so guard the imagination, fortify the conscience, enlighten and exalt the reason, as to form a character clearer even in age than the noonday, and which to all beholders shall shine forth, even to the close of life, with the serene and cheerful light of the morning.

Not more certainly is the body invigorated and preserved by suitable food, by manly exercises, by the vital air, than are the intellectual and moral faculties by the investigation and reception of divine truths, by habits of obedience to the divine will, by cheerful submission to the order and discipline of Divine Providence. Nor let us ever distrust the Father of our spirits, who knows perfectly all the wants of our nature, but rest assured that his commandments in the sacred Scriptures are entirely in harmony with the decrees of his providence; and that as to fear Him and keep His commandments is the whole duty (because the highest duty, and comprehending all others,) so will it prove the whole and eternal happiness of man. If the indissoluble and harmonious connexion between the laws of nature, of Providence and the moral law, be not always obvious, it is always certain. Over all the darkness, disturbances, and evils of the world shines revealed more or less clearly, like the serene and cheerful heavens, this immutable law, binding Virtue, however obscure, persecuted, or forsaken, to reward; Duty, however humble or arduous, to happiness. Hence, the declaration, that all things shall work together for good to them who love God, and that all things are theirs—the past and future—things temporal and spiritual, prosperity and adversity, angels, and principalities, and powers, and God himself, in all the resources of his wisdom and all the eternity of his reign.

How shone out, clear as the noonday, yet mild and gentle as the morning, even in age, in the life and character of that great and venerable man, around whose precious, but, alas! inanimate form we all press in gratitude, admiration, and love, those high virtues derived from faith in

God and nurtured by his revealed truth, this bereaved Congress, and, I may add, this nation witnesses.

History will transmit to future generations a just portrait of his extraordinary character, blending the expression of Roman fortitude, inflexibility, and patriotism, with the purer and holier sentiments of universal philanthropy; the rarest simplicity of manners with the learning of the scholar, the dignity of the statesman, and the profound wisdom of the sage.

But what avails it for our consolation, what to him, independently of his sense of religious obligation, did it avail in the great hour of his extremity, that he had stood among the eminent in knowledge and station, shared the highest honors his country could bestow, and won renown even from distant nations?

It is not improbable that the mind of our venerated friend and father received lessons in moral and religious duty from his illustrious parents even in his early years, which were never effaced. His excellent mother, in 1778, wrote to him in these words: "Great learning and superior abilities, should you ever possess them, will be of little value and small estimation, unless virtue, honor, truth, and integrity are added to them. Adhere to those religious sentiments and principles which were early instilled into your mind, and remember that you are accountable to your Maker for all words and actions." She adds, in the same letter, "dear as you are to me, I would much rather you should have found your grave in the Ocean you have just crossed, than see you an immoral, profligate, or graceless child." Possibly, (for in the kingdom of Providence there is a close and certain connexion between minute moral causes and beneficent and great final results,) in these words was that instruction which, falling like the rain and distilling as the dew, first awoke into activity that sense of religious duty, and those principles of virtue, which so animated and governed his subsequent life.*

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*Those who would duly appreciate the talent and virtues of this eminent lady, will find much of interest in the memoir of her life and in her correspondence, published by her grandson, Charles Francis Adams, Esq. The following passage from a letter, dated London, September 6, 1798, addressed to her son, John Quincy Adams, is seen to have been prophetic: "I think America is taking steps towards a reform, and I know her capable of whatever she undertakes. I hope you will never lose sight of her interests, but make her welfare your study, and spend those hours which others devote to cards and folly to investigating the great principles by which nations have risen to glory and eminence; for your country will one day call for your services, either in the cabinet or field. Qualify yourself to do honor to her."

In another letter she observes: "The strict and inviolable regard you have ever paid to truth gives me pleasing hopes that you will not swerve from her dictates, but add justice, fortitude, and every manly virtue which can adorn a good citizen, do honor to your country, and render your parents supremely happy, particularly your affectionate mother."

In another she remarks: "The only sure and permanent foundation of virtue is religion. Let this important truth be engraven upon your heart; and, also, that the foun-

Truly emblematic of his moral integrity and strength of character, would be the granite column from his native hills, one and entire, just in its proportions, towering in its height, immoveable in its foundations, and pointing to Heaven as the Temple and Throne of everlasting authority, the final refuge, the imperishable home of all regenerated and faithful souls.

Independence of mere human authority in the use of his reason, on all subjects, was united with veneration most sincere and profound for the sacred Scriptures, as a supernatural revelation from God, "whose prerogative extends not less to the reason than the will of man,"* and from a daily perusal of the divine word, and a constant and devout attendance upon the public worship of the Sabbath, although differing on some points from common opinions, he cherished enlarged views of Christian communion, and recognised in most, if not all the religious denominations of this country, members of one and the same family and kingdom of Jesus Christ.

It is unnecessary to add, that in all the relations of private and domestic life he was eminently exemplary, discharging with strict fidelity every social obligation, ever disposed to co-operate in works of public and general utility, and to extend a prompt and bountiful hand for the relief of indigence or distress.

In November, 1843, he addressed his fellow-citizens in Dedham, and said: "With the dawn of to-morrow's day I propose, if it be the will of God, to leave my home, in your service, to repair to the city of Cincinnati, there, at the invitation of a learned Society, to give them my humble aid in laying the corner stone of an Astronomical Observatory."

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dation of religion is the belief of the one only God, and a just sense of his attributes as a being infinitely wise, just, and good, to whom you owe the highest reverence, gratitude, and adoration; who superintends and governs all nature, even to clothing the lilies of the field, and hearing the young ravens when they cry; but more particularly regards man, whom he created after his own image, and breathed into him an immortal spirit, capable of happiness beyond the grave; for the attainment of which he is bound to the performance of certain duties, which all tend to the happiness and welfare of society, and are comprised in one short sentence, expressive of universal benevolence, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.'"

In another she writes: "My anxieties have been and still are great, lest the numerous temptations and snares of vice should vitiate your early habits of virtue, and destroy those principles which you are now capable of reasoning upon, and discerning the beauty and utility of, as the only rational source of happiness here, or foundation of felicity hereafter. Placed as we are in a transitory scene of probation, drawing nigher and still nigher, day after day, to that important crisis which must introduce us into a new system of things, it ought certainly to be our principal concern to become qualified for our expected dignity. You will doubtless have heard of the death of your worthy grandpapa before this reaches you. He left you a legacy more valuable than gold or silver; he left you his blessing, and his prayers that you might return to your country and friends, improved in knowledge and matured in virtue; that you might become a useful citizen, a guardian of the laws, liberty, and religion of your country, as your father (he was pleased to say) had already been. Lay this bequest in your memory, and practise upon it; believe me, you will find it a treasure that neither moth nor rust can devour."

*Lord Bacon.

Behold this venerable patriarch performing, at an inclement season of the year, a journey of a thousand miles, under a sense of obligation which he deemed imposed on his constituents by a declaration in the constitution of Massachusetts, "that the encouragement of the arts and sciences and all good literature tends to the honor of God, the advantage of the Christian religion, and the benefit of this and the other United States of America." He declared that this clause in the constitution of Massachusetts, taken in connexion with the recommendation of the Revolutionary Congress under which that constitution was adopted, made the encouragement of the arts and sciences, and all good literature, "one of the most sacred duties of the people of Massachusetts in all ages." "It is (to adopt his own words on this occasion) enjoined upon them as a part of their duty to God; it is urged upon their posterity as always adapted to promote their own happiness and the general welfare of their country. The voices of your forefathers,* founders of the social compact, calling from their graves in harmony louder and sweeter than the music of the spheres, command you, in piety to God, and in patriotism to your country, to patronize and encourage the arts and sciences, and all good literature; and I deem it, as your representative, a tacit and standing instruction from you to perform, as far as may be my ability, that part of your constitutional duty for you." Most nobly was this duty performed; its beneficial consequences to the cause of science, though already extensive, have but begun to be developed; and this act will ever be viewed as illustrating, not only his attachment to the cause of science, but that also (for which it is here introduced) of his unhesitating and uncompromising obedience to the sense of duty.

How can I proceed, (considering the brief moments to which I am necessarily limited,) and when volumes will not contain the record of those labors and great actions of his life which have exalted his own character, and shed unfading glory on his country.

Let us bless God, to whom he was indebted for all his abilities and all his success, who endued him for the high services he performed, who enabled him to put on righteousness as a garment, and judgment as a robe and a diadem.

Let our united sympathies be expressed to his bereaved family, overwhelmed by this sudden and mighty affliction, by which the voice of the husband, the father, the guide, is silenced, the light of his venerable countenance withdrawn, and the places which knew his revered and beloved form made to know it no more. He, whose mercy is great above

*To realize the full force and touching eloquence of this passage, it must be recollected that the illustrious father of the speaker was the author of the very clause in the constitution of Massachusetts to which he had just referred.

the heavens, is Himself the light and strength of his people in the most dark and dreary hour of affliction; nor can mourners be desolate who look to the eternal God as a refuge, and feel the support and protection of His almighty arm. If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. Comfort one another with these words.

Alas, the sad and appalling ruins of death! "This is the end of earth." Approach! lovers of pleasure, seekers after wisdom, aspirants, by pre-eminence in station, and power, and influence among men, to Fame, see the end of human distinctions and earthly greatness! Surely man walketh in a vain show; surely man in his best estate is altogether vanity. How pertinent to this scene the words of Job: "He leadeth princes away spoiled, and overthroweth the mighty. He removeth away the speech of the trusty, and taketh away the understanding of the aged. He discovereth deep things out of darkness, and bringeth out to light the shadow of Death!" How, indeed, is the mighty fallen, and the head of the wise laid low! All flesh is grass—all the glory of man as the flower of the field. And shall this vast congregation soon be brought to the grave—that house appointed for all the living? Hear, then, the great announcement of the Son of God: "I am the resurrection and the life, and whosoever believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." Is it strange that he who communed so much with the future as the great statesman to whose virtues and memory we now pay this sad, final, solemn tribute of honor and affection, should, in the last conversation I ever had with him, have expressed both regret and astonishment at the indifference among too many of our public men to the truths and ordinances of our holy Religion? Is it to affect our hearts that he has been permitted to fall in the midst of us, to arouse us from this insensibility, and cause us to press towards the gates of the eternal city of God? Let us bless God for another great example to shine upon us, that another star (we humbly trust) is planted amid the heavenly constellations to guide us to eternity! AMEN.

## THE FUNERAL PROCESSION.

The procession which attended the mortal remains of the honorable JOHN QUINCY ADAMS to the Congressional Burying Ground, formed at order:

Military Companies.

Band.

The Chaplains of both Houses of Congress, and Clergy of the District.

Physicians who attended the deceased.

Committee of Arrangements.

the Capitol immediately after the religious ceremonies in the Hall of the House of Representatives were performed, and moved from the east front of the Capitol, through the north gate, round the western portion of the public grounds, and proceeded to the cemetery in the following

PALL-BEARERS.

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|---|---|---|
| Hon. J. J. McKay, N. Carolina, | CORPSE. | Hon. Truman Smith, Conn., |
| Hon. Linn Boyd, Kentucky, | | Hon. J. R. Ingersoll, Penn., |
| Hon. John C. Calhoun, S. C., | | Hon. Thomas H. Benton, Mo., |
| Hon. Justice J. M. Wayne, | | Hon. Justice J. McLean, |
| General George Gibson, | | Com. Charles Morris, |
| Hon. W. W. Seaton, | | Hon. Thomas H. Crawford. |

Mr. J. F. Harvey, Conductor of the Car.

The family and friends of the deceased.

The Senators and Representatives from the State of Massachusetts, as mourners.

The Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives.

The House of Representatives of the United States, preceded by their Speaker and Clerk.

The other Officers of the House of Representatives.

The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate.

The Senate, preceded by their President and Secretary.

The other Officers of the Senate.

The President of the United States.

The Heads of Departments.

The Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, and its Officers.

The Judges of the Courts of the District of Columbia,
and their Officers.

The Diplomatic Corps.

The Comptrollers, Auditors, and other Heads of Bureaus of the several
Departments of the Government, with their Officers.

Officers of the Army and Navy at the seat of Government.

Members of State Legislatures.

The Corporation of Washington.

The Columbian Typographical Society.

Officers and Students of Georgetown College.

Officers and Students of Columbian College.

Literary Institutions.

Fire Companies, and other Associations and Societies
of the District.

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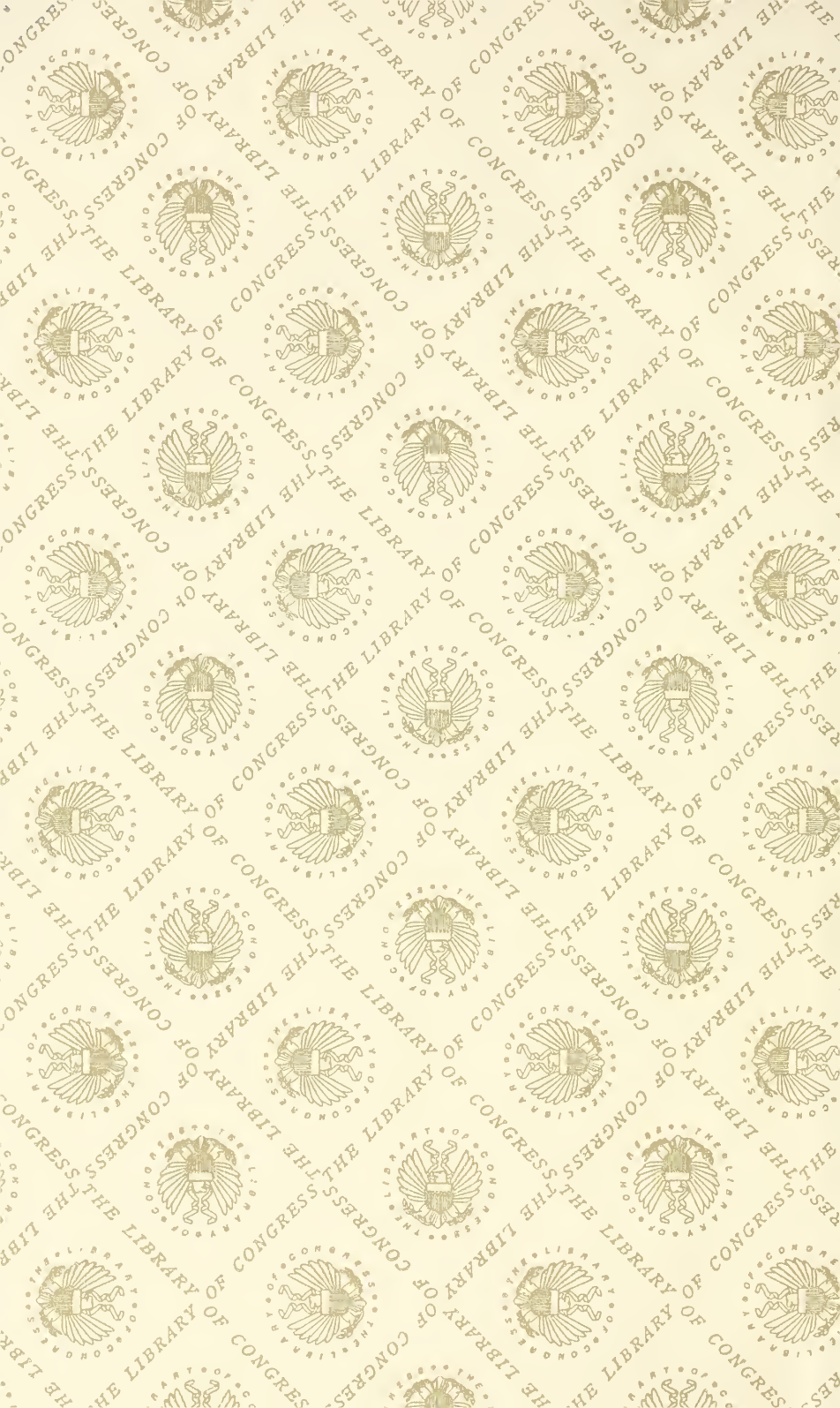
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